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[redacted] 2331-63
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Research)

(DRAFTED 17 MAR)

SUBJECT: Operational Information on Satellite Missions
to pass to the DCI

1. The current interest displayed by the Director to be kept informed on the status of satellite missions prompts me to write this memorandum.

2. Should there be a failure or malfunction in the payload area, we are able to provide accurate data on a timely basis through our representative at the STC. However, whenever malfunctions occur in the THOR or the AGENA we are dependent upon SSD for the information.

3. In the Reports Control Manual there are specific reports covering failures of various types but we lack the authority to demand prompt action on the part of SSD. I bring this weakness to your attention in order that you can accurately advise the Director of delays in obtaining desired information.

4. I have been considering, for some time, the advantages of having a liaison officer assigned to SSD. This position should be held by an individual who is qualified in operational and technical matters to keep us advised on new program development as well as technical and operational changes being made in existing programs. If you desire, I will be glad to discuss this suggestion with you in more detail at your earliest convenience.

JACK C. LEDFORD
Colonel USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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OSA/OD/C/COR/ [redacted] kb (8 Mar 63)

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Handle via [redacted]
Control System